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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 12/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/342,949

Applicant(s)

MYERS ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 October 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-19 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 20-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Alimpich et al. (US Patent No. 6,344,859 B1) and Aiello, Jr. et al. (US Patent No. 6,337,745 B1).

As to claim 1, Alimpich teaches GUI (fig. 4) for providing job tickets and print job information comprising:

A depiction of a pathway access window (53 in fig. 4) including a print queue icon (i.e., queues including queue 1 or 2 in 53 of fig. 5);

A depiction of a printer status window (51 in fig. 5) including a printer icon (in 51 indicates a plurality of printer icon in fig. 4);

A displaying unit (38 in fig. 1) displaying a job ticket for each print job by selecting the print queue icon (see fig. 4, and col. 5, lines 40-51 show list of job ticket including each job ticket for each print job in window 52 on the basis of each print queue in window 53), each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon (each row would be each icon for each job ticket) indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket (each job ticket in window 52 shows the status of each print job either printing or

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processing or pending. Also, the operator is able to control printer functions such as enabling and disabling of printers and jobs as well as determining their status in col. 5, lines 48-51 and 59-64);

A displaying unit (38 in fig. 1) displaying print job information associated with each job ticket by one of the job ticket icons (in the window 52 in fig. 4 show the print job information on the list of jobs 'i.e., job tickets' in which each job 'i.e., each job ticket' in each row indicates the print job information).

However, Alimpich does not explicitly teach selecting one of the job ticket icons for displaying print job information associated with each job ticket.

Aiello, in the same field of endeavor, teaches a display unit displaying a job ticket (198 in fig. 25) for each print job by selecting the print queue icon (i.e., report queue AWM3GB-JOB00124 in fig. 25), each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon (i.e., report ticket) indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket; and the display unit displaying print job information associated with each job ticket by selecting one of the job ticket icons (in fig. 25, col. 8, lines 44-48).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the displaying system of Alimpich for displaying a job information by selecting the job ticket icon as taught by Aiello. The suggestion for modifying the displaying unit of Alimpich can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Aiello because Aiello provides the printing system in which the control displaying window displaying more options including an icon of job ticket for displaying the job information. The resultant of the both systems would allow the user to keep track the print job whether completes or not.

As to claim 9, Aiello teaches the printer status window further comprises a multiuse job progress indicator, including total time, elapsed time, and time remaining for a current print job (see 198 in fig. 25).

3. Claims 2-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Alimpich, Aiello, in view of claim 1, and Manglapus et al. (US Patent No. 6,219,151 B1).

As to claims 2-4, the combination of Alimpich and Aiello teaches every feature in claim 1.

However, the combination of Alimpich and Aiello does not explicitly teaches the print job information comprises required stock information, finishing information and resources information.

Manglapus teaches the print job information comprises required stock information, finishing information and resources information (col. 10, lines 26-29).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the displaying of either Alimpich or Aiello for displaying the status of the print job including stock, finishing and resources information as taught by Manglapus. The suggestion for modifying the system of Alimpich or Aiello can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Manglapus because Manglapus provides the printing system which allows a user to keep track the status of the printer because any status of the print engine is reported to the user computer.

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As to claims 5-8, the combination of Alimpich and Aiello teaches every feature in claim 1.

However, the combination of Alimpich and Aiello does not explicitly teaches the print engine information including an insufficient toner levels is displayed by selecting a print engine icon.

Although neither Alimpich nor Aiello teach the print engine icon for displaying status of contents in the print engine, such limitation is merely a matter of design choice and would have been obvious in the system of either Alimpich nor Aiello. Alimpich teaches a printer icon is selected for status of the printer (status of printer of fig. 3), and it would be understood that a printer would include the print engine and the status of printer would include status of the print engine. Therefore, to have the print engine icon in the window for displaying the print engine status in the combination of Alimpich and Aiello would have been a matter of obvious design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, Manglapus teaches the status of the printer engine including insufficient toner level is reported and displayed to the user (col. 10, lines 26-29).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the displaying of either Alimpich or Aiello to have a print engine icon for displaying the status of the print engine including the insufficient toner level as taught by Manglapus. The suggestion for modifying the system of Alimpich or Aiello can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Manglapus because Manglapus provides the printing system which allows a user to keep track the status of the printer because any status of the print engine is reported to the user computer.

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4. Claims 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Alimpich and Aiello, in view of claim 1, and Manglapus et al. (US Patent No. 6,219,151 B1).

As to claim 20, the combination of Alimpich, Aiello teaches the same methods are performed by the apparatus claim 1 as indicated above.

Although neither Alimpich nor Aiello teach the print engine icon for displaying status of contents in the print engine, such limitation is merely a matter of design choice and would have been obvious in the system of either Alimpich nor Aiello. Alimpich teaches a printer icon is selected for status of the printer (status of printer of fig. 3), and it would be understood that a printer would include the print engine and the status of printer would include status of the print engine. Therefore, to have the print engine icon in the window for displaying the print engine status in the combination of Alimpich and Aiello would have been a matter of obvious design choice to one of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, Manglapus teaches the status of the printer engine including insufficient toner level is reported and displayed to the user (col. 10, lines 26-29).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the displaying of either Alimpich or Aiello to have a print engine icon for displaying the status of the print engine including the insufficient toner level as taught by Manglapus. The suggestion for modifying the system of Alimpich or Aiello can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Manglapus because Manglapus provides the printing system which allows a user to keep track the status of the printer because any status of the print engine is reported to the user computer.

As to claims 21-25, the combination of Alimpich, Aiello and Manglapus teach the methods are performed by the apparatus claims 2-6 as indicated above.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 10-19 are allowed.

Claims 10 and 15 are independent claims.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claims 10 and 15, the prior arts, taken either singly or in combination, does not teach a print engine system having a plurality of exposure units including a first exposure unit exposing a photoconductive belt to create an electrostatic latent image based on the received image data at the direction of the system controller; and a fuser assembly receiving the support material from the transfer unit and permanently affixing the toner to the sheet of support material, and a cleaning unit cleaning the photoreceptor belt.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 10/03/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserted in page 2 "the Examiner has failed to show that the combination of references teaches or suggests all the limitations of claim 1. For example, in claim 1, Applicants recites " a display unit displaying a job ticket for each print job by selecting the print queue icon, each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket " In reply, Alimpich teaches

GUI (fig. 4) for providing job tickets and print job information comprising displaying unit (38 in fig. 1) displaying a job ticket for each print job by selecting the print queue icon (see fig. 4, and col. 5, lines 40-51 show list of job ticket including each job ticket for each print job in window 52 on the basis of each print queue in window 53), each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon (each row would be each icon for each job ticket) indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket (each job ticket in window 52 shows the status of each print job either printing or processing or pending. Also, the operator is able to control printer functions such as enabling and disabling of printers and jobs as well as determining their status in col. 5, lines 48-51 and 59-64); a displaying unit (38 in fig. 1) displaying print job information associated with each job ticket by one of the job ticket icons (in the window 52 in fig. 4 show the print job information on the list of jobs 'i.e., job tickets' in which each job 'i.e., each job ticket' in each row indicates the print job information).

Aiello also teaches a display unit displaying a job ticket (198 in fig. 25) for each print job by selecting the print queue icon (i.e., report queue AWM3GB- JOB00124 in fig. 25), each job ticket is associated with a job ticket icon (i.e., report ticket) indicating whether there are sufficient resources to complete the print job associated with the job ticket; and the display unit displaying print job information associated with each job ticket by selecting one of the job ticket icons (in fig. 25, col. 8, lines 44-48).

Applicant asserted in page 3 “ where the user receives more information if they select that icon. The Examiner is reminded that the job ticket, job ticket icon, and print job information are separate elements of Applicant’s GUI.” In reply,

Alimpich clearly teaches the display screen of FIG. 3 which presents the status of the printers, window 51, the status of jobs, window 52, and the individual printer queues, window 53. There is also a menu bar 54 from which the printer control function selection 55 may be chosen. Upon the selection of printer control function 55, a menu of the basic set of control functions 56 for the network operations environment is brought up as shown in FIG. 4. Using this basic set of control functions, the operator is able to control printer functions such as enabling and disabling of printers and jobs, as well as determining their status (col. 5, lines 40-51). In the flowchart of FIG. 8A, a basic window interface is set up, step 80, whereby the operator may control printer functions, e.g. an interface like that of FIG. 3. Of course, appropriate conventional linkages are set up between representations of functions displayed on a screen whether these representations be text or icons representative of the functions and the functions themselves, step 81. Then, step 82, a set of printer control functions basic to a commercial type of printer operation is set up and an appropriate interface to said set of functions is also set up, step 83, while maintaining the linkages between the representations of these basic functions on the display screen and the functions themselves. Next, steps 84 and 85 respectively repeat steps 82 and 83 to set up an interactive set of functions basic to network printing operations, and steps 86 and 87, FIG. 8B, respectively repeat steps 82 and 83 to set up an interactive set of functions basic to the production type of printing operations. An interactive display interface is set up from which the operator may select to operate one of the three basic sets of functions for respectively controlling one of the three basic types of printer operations, step 88 (col. 6, lines 3-24).

Applicant asserted in page 4 “ The Examiner has pointed to part of Manglapus et al. that discloses an icon indicating whether sufficient resources are available to complete a print job.” In reply, 1) Aiello teaches Operations menu 194 including icons (for example, drag and drop technology in col. 8, line 10) is selected for displaying resources for each of print job in col. 8, lines 30-35); 2) Manglapus also teaches sufficient resources, which are available to complete a print job or not, are indicated to one of icons in the window of the user workstation (col. 10, lines 26-29) in which the user can keep track the reports by clicking or opening the icon.

Applicant argued in pages 3 and 5 that claim 20 should be allowed as the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. In order to sustain a rejection under 35 USC 103(a) the Examiner must show that a combination of references actually teaches or suggest all the limitations of a claim.”. In reply, all of the cited references are the same field of endeavor. Each of references teaches the same concept of Graphical User Interface (GUI) to include the menu having icons. The icons depends on its functions to indicate the contents in their new window after is opened or clicked. The cited references also disclose the status of print queues in which the status of printer and print jobs are informed to the user or the operator. And the user have a chance to know and change the operations of the printer or the print jobs.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the cited prior art fully discloses the claimed invention and the rejection stand.

Conclusion

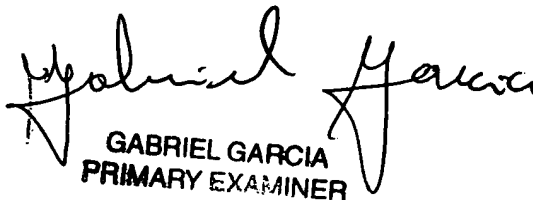
THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
Dec. 05, 2002


GABRIEL GARCIA
PRIMARY EXAMINER